

take transit, use bicycles, and carpool have helped reduce carbon dioxide by half a million pounds. If one city can achieve such success in reducing emissions by changing transportation patterns, the possible emissions reductions through implementing a nationwide complete streets policy are staggering.

Madam Speaker, we live in a time when local governments are strapped for cash. In such a fiscal climate, we should make investments today that will pay out over the long term, and that will help us avoid the need to make costly adjustments to our current transportation system down the line. Incorporating complete streets principles today will help communities save precious dollars in the future by eliminating the need for costly retrofits.

I know this to be true because of the experience of my own congressional district, where the City of Sacramento is preparing to spend \$12 million to update a bridge that was built in the 1930s without adequate sidewalks. Another example of the power of complete streets to save money is from Illinois. There, the legislature passed a complete streets law last year after the state was forced to spend nearly a million dollars adding a foot and bike path to a bridge where several pedestrians and bicyclists were hit and killed by motorists.

But the bottom line, Madam Speaker, is that the Safe and Complete Streets Act of 2008 is good policy because of what it can help us do for our communities, not for the costs it can help us avoid. Encouraging people to use all the various modes of transportation available to them will strengthen public health, reduce congestion, improve air quality, and increase the interconnectedness of our communities. It will help create a national transportation network that works for all Americans regardless of their age, income, or preferred mode of getting around town.

The time has come for this Congress to start thinking about what we want the legacy of American transportation to be. I know I speak for many of my colleagues when I say that we want this to be one where all users of our streets feel safe and accommodated. The Safe and Complete Streets Act of 2008 is a first step toward creating this kind of practical, efficient, and inclusive transportation system, and I am proud to introduce it here today.

#### HONORING DEBORAH MURDOCK

#### HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a long-time education advocate and friend, Deborah Murdock. As Special Assistant to the President at Portland State University, Debbie helped make PSU the top-tier university in Oregon that it currently is. We lost our friend Debbie on August 14, 2007, far too soon. I honor her today because on Sunday, May 4, 2008, Portland State University will dedicate the Debbie Murdock Memorial Clock Tower on their campus.

My first day in Washington, DC, as a new Member of Congress, Debbie was a friendly face who knew more about working in Congress than I did. Her experience with Congressman Les AuCoin was a great benefit for both of us. She knew what I needed to do to

successfully represent my constituents and specifically a certain university in the state's urban hub.

Debbie came to work for PSU in 1993 and almost immediately set goals for the university that may have seemed overly-optimistic and unattainable. She wanted to help the university provide the programs, research and student experience that the other Oregon institutions of higher learning were offering.

During her tenure, Debbie played a significant role in the building and establishment of the Native American Center, the Urban Center, the engineering building and others. She also was involved in the downtown revitalization and "greening" of the campus.

But Debbie's list of accomplishments doesn't end with facilities and structures. Debbie managed to affect almost every person she came into contact with by encouraging their professional or academic development and personal growth. She wanted everyone to be the best they could be and felt like she could help make that happen by being a friend, a mentor or a resource.

I am delighted that Portland State University is naming the new clock tower in honor of Debbie. The tower will be a part of PSU's vitality, energy and life for years to come, as will Debbie Murdock's memory.

#### EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR H. MARTIN LANCASTER'S SERVICE AND FRIENDSHIP

#### HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedicated service of our former colleague, Martin Lancaster, to North Carolina and the Nation.

Martin retires today as President of the North Carolina Community College System, which he has led since 1997. The system enrolls more than 800,000 students in 58 comprehensive community colleges across the State. Internationally recognized for the scope and quality of its programs, the system is one of the largest in the country and North Carolina's primary provider of workforce preparation and adult education.

Martin has worked to increase State and private funding for facilities, equipment, faculty salaries, and instruction and to strengthen the system's essential role in workforce and economic development. He led community college participation in the successful State Higher Education Bond Referendum of 2000, which included \$600 million for community college construction, repair and renovation. He has worked successfully with successive presidents of the University of North Carolina system to ensure a seamless transition for students between community colleges and 4-year state institutions.

In his years as president, Martin and I have collaborated on a number of projects. We've worked hard on the Partnership Fellows Program to help address the serious teacher shortage by providing scholarships for individuals transitioning from associate degree programs in education to bachelor-degree granting institutions. He's helped ensure that future

Federal scholarships for prospective teachers will be available to community college students.

We also continue to promote funding from the National Science Foundation for the Advanced Technological Education, ATE, program to underwrite innovation and excellence in curriculum development, teaching methods, and public-private partnerships. The North Carolina system and individual campuses compete very successfully for this support.

Most recently, we have secured Department of Education funding for an innovative partnership among the North Carolina Symphony, the community college system, and local public school systems. Soloists and small ensembles from the Symphony will visit far-flung communities and, based in their community colleges, offer performances and classes for aspiring young musicians.

Prior to his work with the North Carolina Community College System, Martin served as assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Works from January 1996 until June 1997. Before that, he served as special advisor to President Bill Clinton on chemical weapons. Many Members of this body will remember his 8 years of distinguished service, representing his home town of Goldsboro and the rest of the Third Congressional District.

With the experience of being on active duty in the Navy during the Vietnam war and continuing to serve as an active Reservist until his retirement as a Navy Captain in November 1993, Martin was an effective member of the Armed Services Committee. During his tenure, he fought to obtain benefits increases for disabled veterans and sponsored Agent Orange compensation measures. He also took a special interest in procurement and other small business issues as a member of the Small Business Committee.

Our friendship stretches across decades, including our years in the House, which we began together in the Class of 1986. Martin's commitment and leadership in his law practice, the North Carolina General Assembly, the U.S. Congress, on many boards and commissions, and especially in our community colleges, have improved the quality of life for people of all ages. We have known each other long enough to watch our grandchildren's generation benefit from his talent and dedication.

It is with the greatest respect and my deepest appreciation that I rise today to honor Martin Lancaster and thank him for his many invaluable contributions to our State and Nation. On behalf of all who have also been fortunate to work with him, I wish him, his wife Alice, and their two daughters, Mary Martin and Ashley Elizabeth and their growing families, the best in all of their future endeavors.

#### IN HONOR OF BRIAN PERRY

#### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor a member of my staff, Brian Perry, as he leaves to join Mississippians for Economic Progress as executive director. Brian has served as my communications director for the past 5 years and has done an outstanding job handling the press inquiries my office has received from the national, State, and local level. He has served in